

1969

LIGHT PHOTOGRAPHIC SQUADRON SIXTY-THREE  
NAVAL AIR STATION  
MIRAMAR, CALIFORNIA 92145

FF12/VFP-63  
5750  
Ser 03  
2 MAR 1970

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL (UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL OF ENCLOSURE (1))

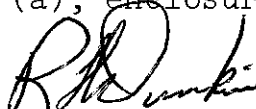
From: Commanding Officer, Light Photographic Squadron SIXTY-THREE  
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)

Subj: Command Histories

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12A

Encl: (1) Light Photographic Squadron SIXTY-THREE Command History  
for Calendar year 1969 (OPNAV 5750-1)

1. In compliance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

  
R. L. DUNKIN

Copy to:  
DIRECTOR OF NAVAL HISTORY (OP-09B9)  
CINCPACFLT

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1969 COMMAND HISTORY

JANUARY

AMS3 (b) (6) was designated Sailor of the Month for January.

AMH3 (b) (6) received the Meritorious Unit Commendation at squadron quarters on 6 January.

Headed by LCDR (b) (6), Det THIRTY-EIGHT departed for the MED on 7 January.

LCDR R. R. PIXLEY was killed while on flight operations off the USS ORISKANY (CVA-34) on 8 January.

On Friday, 17 January, a Personnel and Awards Inspection was held at the station parade grounds. The following personnel received awards for combat duty:

LT (b) (6) ---- Air Medal (Third thru Sixth Strike/Flight Award)

LTJG (b) (6) ---- Navy Achievement Medal & a Gold Star in lieu of the Second Navy Achievement Medal

PRC (b) (6) ---- Navy Achievement Medal

AMSC (b) (6) ---- Navy Achievement Medal

AE3 (b) (6) ---- Air Medal (First Strike/Flight Award)

On 20 January, the squadron marked its 20th Anniversary.

FEBRUARY

PH2 (b) (6) was designated Sailor of the Month for February.

Headed by LCDR (b) (6), Det FOURTEEN departed for WESTPAC on 1 February.

Det THIRTY-EIGHT arrived in Barcelona, Spain on 2 February.

Headed by LCDR (b) (6), Det ELEVEN arrived CONUS on 8 February.

GROUP-4

DOWNGRADED AT 5 YEAR INTERVALS  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 23 YEARS  
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FEBRUARY

Det FOURTEEN had its ORI from 8 thru 10 February.

Headed by LCDR (b) (6) Det NINETEEN departed Yankee Station for CONUS on 9 February.

MARCH

AK3 (b) (6) was designated Sailor of the Month for March.

Det NINETEEN arrived CONUS on 3 March.

Det FOURTEEN arrived at Yankee Station on 4 March.

Three-time All-Navy Wrestling Champion, PN3 (b) (6), won his fourth straight 11th Naval District Wrestling Championship at NTC San Diego on March 14th.

(b) (6) wrestled in the 135.6 pound class and the victory put him near the 200-win mark.

A foot injury prevented him from advancing in further competition.

Headed by LCDR (b) (6) Det THIRTY-ONE departed for WESTPAC on 18 March.

The extra effort put forth by all hands in preparation for the ADMAT Inspection on 19 and 20 March, paid a rich dividend. This was in the form of a commendable 96.3 overall average for the squadron.

CAPT C. N. CONASTER, Commander Fleet Air Miramar, inspected squadron personnel on Thursday, 20 March on the station parade grounds. Awards for combat duty were presented to the following:

LT (b) (6) --- Air Medal (Sixth thru Ninth Strike/Flight Award), and a Gold Star in lieu of a third Navy Commendation Medal

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MARCH

LT (b) (6) ---- Air Medal (Second thru Fourth Strike/  
Flight Award) and a Navy Commendation  
Medal

LT (b) (6) ---- Air Medal (Second thru Fourth  
Strike/Flight Award) and Air Medal  
(Bronze Star in lieu of the First  
Award)

ADJ1 (b) (6) ---- Letter of Commendation

PH1 (b) (6) ---- Letter of Commendation

ATR2 (b) (6) ---- Air Medal (First Strike/Flight  
Award)

PH2 (b) (6) ---- Letter of Commendation

AOCS (b) (6) relieved PHCS (b) (6) as Leading  
Chief on 25 March. Senior Chief (b) (6) was transferred to the  
Naval Air Technical Training Unit, NAS Pensacola, Florida.

Det THIRTY-ONE had its ORI on 27 and 28 March.

Headed by LCDR (b) (6), Det FORTY-THREE departed Yankee  
Station for CONUS on 30 March.

APRIL

AMS3 (b) (6) was designated Sailor of the Month for  
April.

Headed by LCDR (b) (6), Det THIRTY-FOUR departed for  
WESTPAC on 16 April.

Det THIRTY-ONE arrived at Yankee Station on 17 April.

Det FORTY-THREE arrived CONUS on 18 April.

Det THIRTY-FOUR had its ORI from 21 thru 24 April.

MAY

PH2 (b) (6) was designated Sailor of the Month for May.

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MAY

Det THIRTY-FOUR arrived at Yankee Station on 16 May.

PH3 (b) (6) received the Navy Unit Commendation at squadron quarters on 26 May.

JUNE

AMS2 (b) (6) was designated Sailor of the Month for June.

PT1 (b) (6) received the Meritorious Unit Commendation and PH3 (b) (6) received the Navy Unit Commendation at squadron quarters on 2 June.

On Wednesday, 11 June, the Change of Command Inspection was held at the station parade grounds.

CDR R. L. DUNKIN relieved CDR J. L. ELLIS as Commanding Officer. CDR DUNKIN had served as the Executive Officer for the past year. CDR ELLIS departed for his new assignment as Navigation Officer aboard the USS KITTY HAWK (CVA-63).

The following personnel received the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Korea) for service while attached to Detachments FOURTEEN and FORTY-THREE during the period of 23 January 1968 thru 22 March 1968 at squadron quarters on 23 June:

Det FOURTEEN

PRC (b) (6)  
AMS1 (b) (6)  
AME1  
ADJ2  
ADJ2  
AZ2 (b) (6)  
PR2  
ADJ3 (b) (6)  
AMH3  
AMS3  
PT3 (b) (6)

Det FORTY-THREE

AMS2 (b) (6)  
ATN2  
PH2 (b) (6)  
ADJ3 (b) (6)

JULY

PH2 (b) (6) was designated Sailor of the Month for July.

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JULY

Tuesday, 1 July marked the end of a distinguished and unique career for ATC (b) (6). The Chief retired as a Lieutenant Commander at a Personnel Inspection held in his honor at the station parade grounds. Chief (b) (6), whose retirement ended a Navy career of more than 31 years, had served as a temporary commissioned officer from 1944 to 1963. After 25 years in uniform, he was given the option to retire as a Lieutenant Commander, or revert to his permanent chief's rate and continue on active duty and he elected to remain in the service. Enlisted men who serve as temporary commissioned officers or limited duty officers retain the highest rank reached when they retire even though they may have reverted to their permanent rates.

During the ceremony, CDR R. L. DUNKIN presented LCDR (b) (6) with a Retirement Letter and commended him for his unselfish and dedicated service.

LCDR (b) (6) also led one of the inspecting parties and was on the reviewing stand when squadron personnel passed in review.

In addition to the retirement ceremony, CDR Dunkin "spot" promoted LT (b) (6) to Lieutenant Commander, and presented awards for combat duty to the following personnel:

LCDR (b) (6) ---- Air Medal (Fifth thru Ninth  
Strike/Flight Award)  
LT (b) (6) ---- Air Medal (First Strike/Flight Award)  
LT (b) (6) ---- Navy Commendation Medal  
ADJC (b) (6) ---- Navy Commendation Medal  
AMSC (b) (6) ---- Navy Commendation Medal  
ADJ1 (b) (6) ---- Navy Achievement Medal  
AME1 (b) (6) ---- Navy Achievement Medal  
AE2 (b) (6) ---- Navy Achievement Medal  
PH1 (b) (6) ---- SEVENTH Fleet Letter of Commendation  
PT2 (b) (6) ---- SEVENTH Fleet Letter of Commem-  
dation

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JULY

AMS3 (b) (6) --- SEVENTH Fleet Letter of Commenda-  
tion

Det THIRTY-EIGHT departed Rota, Spain for CONUS on 19 July.

LCDR (b) (6) and WO (b) (6) received the Presi-  
dential Unit Citation at squadron quarters on 21 July.

Det THIRTY-EIGHT arrived CONUS on 29 July.

AUGUST

PH3 (b) (6) was designated Sailor of the Month for  
August.

The softball team won both rounds of intramural competition  
and the 1969 Station Post-Season Tournament, while compiling a  
perfect 23 & 0 record for the season. Eighteen of these victories  
came on the strong pitching arm of PN1 (b) (6)

Team members included the following personnel:

LT (b) (6)	AZ2 (b) (6)
LT (b) (6)	AZ3 (b) (6)
LT (b) (6)	AZ3 (b) (6)
AZC (b) (6) (Team Captain)	YN3 (b) (6)
PN1 (b) (6)	PN3 (b) (6)
AME1 (b) (6)	AN (b) (6)
PH1 (b) (6)	SN (b) (6)
ADJ2 (b) (6)	PN3 (b) (6)

Headed by LCDR (b) (6), Det NINETEEN departed for  
WESTPAC on 2 August.

Det NINETEEN had its ORI on 12 and 13 August.

CDR Dunkin was presented the Eleventh Naval District Marks-  
man Trophy for the month of August by squadron pistol team captain,  
AVCM (b) (6) at squadron quarters on 25 August. Other  
team members included PH2 (b) (6), PH2 (b) (6), and PH2  
(b) (6).

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SEPTEMBER

PH2 (b) (6) was designated Sailor of the Month for September.

Det NINETEEN arrived Yankee Station on 1 September.

Det FOURTEEN departed WESTPAC for CONUS on 4 September.

Det FOURTEEN arrived CONUS on 18 September.

Breaking a 20-year tradition of an all male squadron, the squadron received its first woman crew member on 19 September. The WAVE, PH1 (b) (6), is presently in charge of the color print room of the squadron's photo lab.

On Friday, 19 September, a Personnel and Awards Inspection was held at the station parade grounds. The following personnel received awards for combat duty:

LT (b) (6) ---- Air Medal (Fifth thru Eight Strike/Flight Award) and a Gold Star in lieu of a Second Navy Commendation Medal

LT (b) (6) ---- Air Medal (Second thru Fifth Strike/Flight Award) and a Navy Commendation Medal

ADJC (b) (6) ---- Navy Commendation Medal

AFCM (b) (6) ---- Navy Achievement Medal

ADJC (b) (6) ---- Navy Achievement Medal

PT2 (b) (6) ---- Navy Achievement Medal

Headed by LCDR (b) (6) Det FORTY-THREE departed for WESTPAC on 23 September.

OCTOBER

ADR2 (b) (6) was designated Sailor of the Month for October.

Det FORTY-THREE had its ORI from 4 thru 6 October.

Det THIRTY-ONE departed Yankee Station for CONUS on 7 October.



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OCTOBER

Det FORTY-THREE arrived Yankee Station on 27 October.

Det THIRTY-ONE arrived CONUS on 29 October.

Det THIRTY-FOUR departed Yankee Station for CONUS on 31 October.

NOVEMBER

AK3 (b) (6) was designated Sailor of the Month for November.

Det THIRTY-FOUR arrived CONUS on 17 November.

The pistol team put NAS Miramar into the win column on 25 November, as the Photomen won the Open Championship in the Eleventh Naval District Pistol Match at East Miramar.

Competing in a group of 80 highly qualified shooters, the "Champs" notched 1,973 hits out of 2,400.

Miramar's ace shooter, AVCM (b) (6) of VFP-63, fired a 1,105 for First Masters honors.

LTJG (b) (6) qualified as Third Sharpshooter with a score of 998; PH2 (b) (6) fired a 979 for a sharpshooter Medal; and PH1 (b) (6) received a Sharpshooter Award with a score of 977.

DECEMBER

PHAN (b) (6) was designated Sailor of the Month for December.

On Friday, 5 December, a Personnel and Awards Inspection was held at the station parade grounds. The following personnel received awards for combat duty:

CDR (b) (6) ---- Air Medal (First thru Fourth Strike/Flight Award)

LT (b) (6) ---- Air Medal (First thru Fourth Strike/Flight Award)

LT (b) (6) ---- Air Medal (Eighth thru Eleventh Strike/Flight Award)

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DECEMBER

AEC (b) (6) ----- Navy Commendation Medal

PT2 (b) (6) --- Navy Achievement Medal

LT (b) (6) of Det NINETEEN was listed as missing while  
in action on 16 December.